



## Winter 2013

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Welcome to the winter edition of the Maryland Transitioning Youth Newsletter. As many students spend the winter months waiting to hear back from college admission offices, this edition is focused on preparing for college and ensuring that students take advantage of opportunities available to them on campus.

## Transition Planning

Transition to College



When students exit high school, they no longer have an IEP or 504 Plan. For those planning to attend college who want an accommodation, they will need to self identify (disclose) their disability and request supports from the school. Each college has staff to assist students with this, generally through a Disability Support Services (DSS) office. When requesting supports, colleges generally require documentation of the student's disability. As each college may have a different process, students are encouraged to contact their DSS office before leaving high school to allow for enough preparation time before their first semester.

It is also important to know that students may not receive the same supports or services that their high school provided and are required to complete all coursework as assigned. Students must be able to identify what supports they need to learn and ask for them.

Examples of possible accommodations that students may be eligible for, depending on their disability, are:

- Extended time on tests
- Books in alternate format
- Sign language interpreters
- Assistive Technology such as screen readers

For more information about transitioning to college, including your rights under the law and accessing financial aid, visit the <u>Maryland Transitioning Youth</u> Website.

## Program Spotlight

**SUCCESS** 

# APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED ON A ROLLING BASIS



SUCCESS (Students United for Campus-Community Engagement for Post-Secondary Success) is Maryland's first 4-year college experience for young adults with intellectual disabilities. Developed by the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), in partnership with the Maryland Department of Disabilities, the primary goals of SUCCESS are:

- Employability
- Independent Living
- Critical Thinking
- Problem Solving Skills Development

SUCCESS students attend UMBC during the regular college school year (fall and spring semesters) and participate in inclusive coursework in addition to social and recreational campus based activities with other UMBC students.

For more information, including eligibility and the application process, click here.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **2012 Youth Leadership Forum**

The Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) is a four day summer program for students with disabilities entering one of their final two years of high school. Participating students have the opportunity to learn and practice their self advocacy skills while focusing on leadership, independence and personal and career goals. In addition, students get to experience college life by staying in a college dorm and making new friends.

The 2013 YLF is scheduled to take place at Towson University and **registration is being accepted through March 30th**. For more information, including applications, <u>click here</u>.

#### **College Fair**

The Project Access College Fair will be held March 2nd from 12:00 - 3:00 at the The Burrill Galleria, Science and Technology Building at Howard Community College. Numerous two and four year colleges and career schools with be participating. In addition, workshops on various topics including financial aid and disability programs will be available. For more information, click here.

For all other announcements, visit us on Facebook.

The Maryland Transitioning Youth Website is sponsored by the Governor's Interagency Transition Council for Youth with Disabilities and is designed to provide information and resources to youth and young adults with disabilities and their families.

For more information visit at <a href="https://www.mdtransition.org">www.mdtransition.org</a>
or email <a href="mailto:mdod@mdod.state.md.us">mdod@mdod.state.md.us</a>



